

EAST COUNTY CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Meeting of March 3, 2010

Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center
3300 Briggs Chaney Road
Silver Spring, Maryland 20904

Members Present: Bill Strassberger (Chair); Marva Deskins (Vice Chair); Eric G. Luedtke (Parliamentarian); Anthony Ramirez (Secretary); Thomas J. Aylward; Kim Bobola, Ph.D.; Amjad M. Chaudhry, G. Stanley Doore; David M. Kochanski, Esq.; Allan Mulligan; Alfreda H. Payne, Ph.D.; Odessa Shannon; Saschane M. Stephenson; Benoy Thomas Vanessa E. Ali

Members Absent: Peter Myo Khin

Staff: Joy Nurmi (Director) and Anjoo Chohda (SEAA) Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center.

Guests: Tamera G. Bulla (Vice President, Burtonsville Volunteer Fire Department # 15); Marlene Newman (Auxiliary, BVFD); Rebecca Segal (BVFD); Leonard E. Newman (EMT III, BVFD); Ed Weiler (President, Broadmore Hill); Pam Saul (Staff, Sen. Rona Kramer; District 14, Montgomery County); Miti Figueredo (Staff, Councilmember Nancy Navarro's office); Mara Parker (Staff, Councilmember Marc Elrich's office); Kristin O'Connor (Senior Planner, M-NCPPC); Jennifer Wright (Burtonsville PTA); Mark Pharaoh (ECRAB); Bob Sylwester (Resident); Dan Wilhem (GCCA); Chris Cowie (Cowie and Associates); Lucretia Bartley (President, HOA, Greencastle Manor II); Jeanette Der Bedrosian (Gazette reporter); Teddy Wu (Resident) Frank Alvarez (Greencastle Lakes Community Association –GLCA); Teddy Wu (Resident)

Chair Strassberger welcomed everyone to the board meeting.

Citizen's Forum: Asked the guests to introduce themselves and share their concerns with the board. The floor was opened for questions.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:25 p.m.

Chair Strassberger – announced presentations by Tami Bulla, Vice President, Burtonsville Volunteer Fire Department.

Speaker :

1. Tami Bulla, Montgomery County Burtonsville Volunteer Fire Department; Station # 15:

Tami thanked the board and invited Mr. Len Newman, EMT III, BVFD to join her in the brief PowerPoint presentation. Len and Tami updated the Board Members on the status of the Burtonsville Volunteer Fire Department; the services their volunteers provide each year especially during the recent snow blizzard 2009 and 2010; the cost savings to County residents; and factors that may impact their ability to provide the high caliber of services the community has grown to expect. During this dynamic fiscal climate, they need to effectively partner with all stakeholders to maximize efficiencies and ensure continued success. They welcomed this opportunity to exchange information and solicit input from the community. Details can be obtained at <http://www.burtonsvillevfd.com/> BVFD is interested in specific involvement in the new station being planned for Tech Road area.

Chair Strassberger – Thanked the Speakers for their presentations and for their outstanding work in serving the community.

Approval of Minutes:

Chair Strassberger asked for a review of the minutes of the ECCAB Meeting of February 3, 2010.

[March 3rd 2010-1] A motion was made to approve the minutes of February 3rd 2010. The motion was moved by Eric Luedtke; seconded by Tom Aylward and unanimously approved.

Director's Report – Joy Nurmi

Announcements:

- Joy attended the Burtonsville PHED committee meeting on Monday, March 1st. The Committee has reviewed the Burtonsville Revitalization and is pending bond issue.
- The County Executive will release his Operating Budget on March 15th. The CIP budget will be released by March end.
- The 3rd District Police Department issue scheduled on the Planning Board on March 4th has been moved by Planning Department and Department of General Services due to technical issues.
- The IDA Sector Meeting – is scheduled on March 9th: 7:00 p.m. at the East County Recreation Center.
- Weekly Crime Update – encourage members to sign up, the 4th District report will also be included. (Currently the report includes reports from 3rd District - IDA1, IDA2, Henry 2 & 4th District- John 1)
- The Stop Light at New Hampshire and Quaint Acres – waiting to hear from the department.
- Colesville Strawberry Festival is scheduled on May 22nd – the sign-up sheet was distributed to the members.
- Appreciation- Marva Deskins was applauded for the presentation to the County Executive at the Board testimony and Bill Strassberger did a good job at the CIP hearing.

Chair's Report – Bill Strassberger

Made two important announcements

- An Interview Committee has to be formed to select the new ECCAB applicants. The list of potential applicants is expected sometime soon.
Board members – Marva Deskins, Kim Bobola, Eric Luedtke and David Kochanski volunteered to participate on the interview panel.
- March is Election month. A Nominating Committee has to be established.
Board members – Tom Aylward and Allan Mulligan volunteered to serve on the nominating committee.

Councilmember Nancy Navarro's office:

Chief of staff, Miti Figueredo announced:

- Regarding the need of development of Percontee Site, the issue is with the Planning Board and will move up in FY 2011.
- Tuesday, March 9th - Council has scheduled a hearing with the State Department of Transportation, Pepco regarding snow removal operations. Asked members to email any issues by noon of March 5th

Councilmember Mark Elrich's office:

Mara Parker announced:

- March 23rd is CIP
- 3rd District Police Station – cannot make any recommendation at the moment
- Maydale facility deteriorated and closed. Delegate Taylor is involved in its rebuilding; there is a lot of concern in the community since the facility has closed. Encourages community to write to the State, County Council to re-open the facility.
- Council agreed to extend the Gaithersburg Master Plan until May 9th

Committee Reports –

Services Committee: Anthony Ramirez, Chair

Public Safety – Committee would like to support the IDA sector meetings with community.

Outreach Committee: Amjad M. Chaudhry, Chair

The Committee did not meet due to snow storm. The committee meets on March 10th.

Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee: Tom Aylward, Chair

The Committee discussed on a follow up letter addressed to County Executive and County Council President with respect to Gaithersburg West Mater Plan. A discussion on the amendments in the letter followed.

Eric Luedtke suggested a Motion to amend the letter be passed.

[March 3rd 2010-2] A motion was made to amend the follow up letter with the CE and County Council regarding Gaithersburg West Mater Plan was made. The motion was moved by Odessa Shannon; seconded by David Kochanski and unanimously approved.

Upon further discussion and final amendments to the letter, another Motion was passed.

[March 3rd 2010-3] A motion was made to submit the letter to the CE and County Council regarding Gaithersburg West Mater Plan as amended with Chair Bill Strassberger's digital signature was passed. The motion was moved by Tom Aylward; seconded by Allan Mulligan and unanimously approved.

Old Business: None

New Business – None

Announcements

Chair Strassberger – IDA Sector meeting is scheduled on March 9th at 7:00 p.m.

Joy Nurmi – County Executive's Budget will be posted on County's page on March 15th

Mara Parker – April 6th, 7th, 8th – 7:00 p.m. are dates scheduled for Operating Budget Testimony.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40p.m. **The next meeting of ECCAB is scheduled for April 7th 2010.**

ATTACHMENT *(emailed members)*

Director's Report – March 2010

Burtonsville Revitalization

The Council's Planning, Housing and Economic Development (PHED) Committee will review the Burtonsville Revitalization project on Monday, March 1st. A copy of the Staff packet is at:

http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/council/pdf/agenda/cm/2010/100301/20100301_PHED2.pdf

Third District Police Station

The Third District Police Station goes in front of the Planning Board on March 4th for its mandatory referral. The Planning Board will hear its staff recommendations and public comment and then make recommendations on the project. These recommendations are guidance to government, and are not requirements. However, the project must meet the State's forest conservation law. To view the Planning Board packets on the forest conservation plan and the project submittal, go to the planning board agenda at: <http://www.montgomeryplanningboard.org/agenda/2010/agenda20100304e.html> and click on the links in ITEM #7.

IDA Sector

The next IDA Sector meeting is March 9th at 7 p.m. at the East County Community Recreation Center.

Weekly Crime Update

The ECRSC, in partnership with the Third District Police, has begun distributing a Weekly Crime Update for the Burtonsville, Calverton, White Oak, Hillandale and Colesville areas.

MD 650 and Quaint Acres Drive Stoplight

This week, the County has submitted the additional study requested by SHA. We will notify the community when we receive SHA's final decision.

Maydale Park

Del. Herman Taylor has introduced a \$55,000 bond bill for renovating the building Maydale Nature Park, which is owned by P&P, and is located at: 1638 Maydale Drive in Colesville. The money would allow the community center there to be renovated and East County elementary schools could once again attend environmental education classes locally at Maydale. The Bond Bill requires a 10% match, but could consist of "in-kind" contributions, including work by community members.

Online System Makes It Easy to Report Potholes in Montgomery County

Residents can report potholes either on the county's website at

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/potholes or call Highway Services at 240-777-6000. It is helpful to provide as precise a location as possible, including the nearest street address or cross street.

Residents are reminded that numbered roads in the County, such as Rockville Pike, Route 355 or Georgia Avenue, Route 97, are maintained by the State Highway Administration (SHA). Report potholes to SHA at www.roads.maryland.gov, and then click on "Report Litter or Pothole."